

9 March 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Conference with [redacted]

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1. On 8 March 1949 I conferred with [redacted] relative to the attached memorandum, dated 30 January 1949, from [redacted] to me. [redacted] Deputy Chief, FBI, witnessed the interview.

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2. I advised [redacted] that:

a. I had explained to him after receipt of his 5 May 1948 memorandum that my refusal to consider him for promotion to Grade CAF-12 was no reflection on the East Coast monitoring operation and should not be so interpreted.

b. I considered the individuals in the East Coast Bureau to be good employees, and that the record of the operation showed that they contributed a substantial amount to our end product, but that, as I told him after his 5 May memorandum, the esprit de corps and morale in this section were not as good as in other field bureaus and that this must be considered a reflection on the leadership of the section.

c. I regretted very much that his memorandum implied that I, as Chief of the Branch, was not aware of the conditions under which the East Coast Monitoring Section operated, and that I may not have been fair-minded in my dealings with the section.

d. I have always told him that my door is open to any employee who wants to see me at any time, and that the writing of all these memoranda to [redacted] or to me is generally unnecessary and a waste of time.

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e. Personnel of the Monitoring Section should not be calling [redacted] or anyone else at the Dictaphone Corporation except by permission of the Chief Engineer.

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f. I considered it very poor judgment and poor leadership that a petition protesting the use of the new dictaphone equipment had been circulated within the Monitoring Section with his knowledge.

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This document part of classified integrated file. NAME CHECK required prior to individual classification action.

g. I could not accept his evaluation of the new equipment at its face value for the simple reason that Tokyo, Hawaii, Reseda and Cyprus are all using this new equipment and have found it to be completely satisfactory; and, furthermore, some of these stations have had only a small portion of the technical assistance the East Coast Bureau has had, and that I must conclude that at least a part of the East Coast personnel's inability to make this equipment work is their unwillingness to do so.

h. I recognize the fact that the East Coast is sub-standard in some respects when compared to Reseda or other bureaus for the simple reason that it is not staffed and equipped to turn out the same copy that other stations do, but that until we move to our new East Coast location I do not consider it a proper expenditure of funds to supply the additional personnel, and that we do not expect the East Coast Mission to turn out the same copy as do other bureaus who have a full staff of teletypists, etc.

i. I would like to request again that he bring his problems to me and discuss them rather than write these long memoranda containing mostly picayunish items, and that I considered most of these memoranda to be a waste of either his time or the government's.

j. Perhaps he had been in this one job so long that it was difficult for him to take an objective viewpoint of these matters, and that I would consider transferring him to another job if he agreed that this might be proper.

k. Effective at once, [ ] was designated Acting Chief of the East Coast Bureau, and that he would thereafter take his problems to [ ]

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L. K. WHITE

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